

'MANDEVILLE HALL'
10 Mandeville Crescent, Toorak



Recommendations It is recommended that this building be added to the Register of Historic Buildings, Register of the National Estate and be protected using the provisions of Clause 6 of the Town and Country Planning Act (Third Schedule).

Current Assessments 'Mandeville Hall' is recorded by the National Trust of Australia (Victoria).

History and Description 'Mandeville Hall', Toorak, was built in 1873 by merchant Alfred Watson and extended between 1877 and 1879 by millionaire, Joseph Clarke. Architect Charles Webb was commissioned to design these extensions which increased the house from twelve to thirty rooms in size, the builder employed being Lockington. The artist, East was commissioned to execute the interior decoration under the direction of Gillow and Co. of London and the mansion was subsequently ornamented in an original and rich manner. Externally a colonnaded balcony, of Ionic and Corinthian columns was added to curve around bays either side of the central pedimented entrance portico. The parapet of this Italianate mansion is balustraded and a balustraded terrace contains steps which lead to the lawn area. Joseph Clarke occupied 'Mandeville Hall' until 1897 and in 1902 extensive subdivision of the estate occurred prior to auction of the mansion on four acres of land. Mrs Ross-Soden, who occupied the building from 1903 was responsible for extensive alterations to 'Mandeville Hall' and in 1924 Loreto Convent Trustees acquired the mansion and it is now in use as an educational building.

Significance 'Mandeville Hall' contains many intact interiors of a highly original character and remains largely intact as an early example of a Melbourne mansion connected with a well known Melbourne businessman, Joseph Clarke. The conservatory, which leads off the drawing room, is an important and intact element.

Intactness Although alterations and additions have occurred at 'Mandeville Hall' since the turn of the century, Joseph Clarke's mansion remains substantially intact, including many of the

internal finishes and the unpainted external cement render. The grounds have been extensively reduced but the front lawn remains.

References

National Trust of Australia (Victoria) research notes.

Robb, E. M., Early Toorak and District 1934.

Australasian, 10 August 1878.

Illustrated Australian News, 31 October, 1878.

Rate Books, City of Prahran, various dates.

Forge, S., Victorian Splendour, GUP, 1981.

Australian, 30 July 1892, p.231, 'A saunter through a fashionable suburb, glimpses of good houses'.